from nominations of area committee members or alternates.

EFFECTIVE DATE NOTE: At 57 FR 61774, Dec. 29, 1992, §948.51 was amended by suspending indefinitely the second sentence.

§ 948.52 Alternates.

- (a) For each committee member there shall be an alternate who shall have the same qualifications. During a member's absence, or when called upon to do so in accordance with the terms hereof, or in the event of a member's death, removal, resignation, or disqualification, an alternate shall act in his place and stead until the member's successor is selected and has qualified.
- (b) Area committees, with the Secretary's approval, may provide through rules for members or for alternates to recommend regulations for early crop potatoes or for late crop potatoes and to specify the particular crop for which each group shall be responsible.

§ 948.53 Reestablishment.

Areas, subdivisions of areas, the distribution of representation among the subdivision of areas, or among marketing organizations within respective areas may be reestablished by the Secretary upon area committee recommendations. Upon approval therefor of respective committees affected thereby, areas may be reestablished. In recommending any such changes, the committee shall consider (a) the relative importance of new producing sections, (b) relative production, (c) changes in marketing organizations and their relative status in the industry, (d) the geographic locations of producing sections as they would affect the efficiency of administration of this part, and (e) other relevant factors.

§948.54 Eligibility.

Area committee members and alternates shall be individuals who shall be residents of, and producers or handlers, as the case may be, in the respective area. Also, each member or alternate to qualify as a representative (a) for producers shall be a producer, or an officer or employee of a producer; (b) for producer's cooperative marketing associations shall be members or employees of such associations; or (c) for handlers other than cooperative marketing

associations shall be a handler, or an officer or employee of a handler.

§ 948.55 Term of office.

The term of office of each area committee member and alternate shall be for two years. The term of office for Colorado Potato Committee members and alternates shall be for one year. The dates on which terms of office for each committee shall begin and end shall be established by the Secretary pursuant to respective committee recommendation. Terms of office of area committee members shall be arranged so that approximately one-half shall terminate each year. Determination of which initial members and alternates shall serve for one year or two years shall be by lot.

§ 948.56 Nomination and selection.

- (a) Each area committee shall hold or cause to be held, not less than 15 days prior to the expiration date of respective terms of office, meetings of producers and handlers for each subdivision in which terms expire or in which vacancies otherwise occur.
- (b) At each such meeting one or more nominees shall be designated for each impending vacancy as member or alternate. Such designation may be by ballot or by motion at the option of those present in voting capacity.
- (c) Only producers may participate in designating producer nominees; only handlers may participate in designating handler nominees; and only duly authorized representatives of producers' cooperative marketing associations may participate in designating nominees to represent such associations. If no separate representation is provided for producers' cooperative marketing associations, duly authorized representatives of such associations may participate in designating handler nominees.
- (d) Each producers' cooperative marketing association shall be entitled to cast only one vote in designating nominees to represent such associations. Each producer and each handler shall be entitled to cast only one vote on behalf of himself, his agents, subsidiaries, affiliates, and representatives.